



CITY of NORTHAMPTON ***PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT***

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Vaccine Update 3/4/2021

Moderna vaccine first doses:

At this time we do not expect to receive any more first doses of Moderna.

Moderna vaccine second doses:

Recently we had to cancel Moderna second dose clinics. We have received the vaccine shipment! We have sent email and robo-call to all of the individuals we know were cancelled last week. We have rescheduled almost everyone to get their second dose. If you received a first dose of Moderna with us and have not received these messages or have not been able to make a new appointment, please contact us at covid-19@gmail.com with MODERNA in the subject line.

Pfizer vaccine first doses:

If your appointment on March 1 was cancelled: we will let you know as soon as we have appointments available next week. We have the list of all whose first doses were cancelled. We will let you know via email or robocall as soon as we can offer you an appointment.

All others who are eligible for first doses:

At the moment there are no appointments available. The number of appointments we have available each week depends on the doses we are allocated and promised by the Commonwealth. We usually learn this number between Friday evening and Monday. As soon as we have this confirmation we solidify our appointments and post them on the webpage. Unfortunately we cannot currently guarantee a particular time that we will open the appointments to the public. Please know: we do this as soon as possible. We do not want to promise a vaccine unless we receive confirmation that we will have it.

Pfizer vaccine second doses:

All of this week's vaccine doses have been scheduled, mostly for second doses that were due or that had been cancelled due to distribution challenges last week.

Should I worry about my second dose being delayed?

We understand that delaying second doses has caused increased worry for many community members. The vaccine schedule provided is a minimum timeframe (ie 21 day minimum between Pfizer and 28day minimum between Moderna doses). From the Centers for Disease Control and

Prevention regarding delayed second doses: "If it is not feasible to adhere to the recommended interval, the second dose may be scheduled for administration up to 6 weeks (42 days) after the first dose. If the second dose is administered beyond these intervals, there is no need to restart the series.

Is there still a wait list?

No. Everyone on our previous 65+ wait list is now eligible and should try to make an appointment for a vaccine at any COVID-19 vaccine clinic. Our appointments are posted [online](#) each week as soon as we are promised vaccine by the Commonwealth. Other places to find appointments are also listed on our webpage.

We have heard there is confusion about the wait list. We have emailed the waitlist several times to let folks know they are now eligible and [where to go](#) to make appointments.

What about "extra" doses?

At this time we do not have a waitlist for doses at the end of clinics. We do not waste any doses that are available. We are still working through a long list of individuals who are over 75 and do not have the ability to make an online appointment. When we have extra doses we will call them. Please do not form lines outside the senior center.

We are committed to the health of our Western Mass communities. We have stepped up as required in order to keep vaccinating -- and have expanded our physical site to accommodate over 800 people per day. We are ready and waiting to expand our staffing schedule for these doses. As soon as we receive vaccines we will get it into arms!